

AN END PUT TO EXTORTION.

An investigator for the morning World points out the changed conditions at Ellis Island. Formerly the half-a-million immigrants arriving there annually ran a gantlet of extortion: they were legitimate prey for user and blackmailer and petty swindler. It was as if all the inhabitants of a large city, a Baltimore, were compelled to pay toll as they passed through the narrow gates to the promised land.

Commissioner Williams has done away with most of these abuses. The incoming foreigner is no longer plucked and plundered. He is now treated with a consideration that gives him a first taste of the blessings of liberty. It is a fine fruit of reform, deserving of the highest praise. The regret is that it has been so long delayed.

FATHER OF THE FLAT.

Where or when the flat-house originated no man knoweth. The Aztecs had it and the Babylonians also, and there were Italian palazzi and high-gabled Frank-furter structures in the Middle Ages which served its uses without bearing its name. But for America and for New York it originated in 1853 in a house put up in Thirtieth street, near Lexington avenue, by Thomas Kilpatrick, just dead at the age of eighty-one.

Kilpatrick builded better than he knew, and a landmark-preservation society will some day fix on the walls a bronze tablet to commemorate the epoch-making act. He had come to New York from Ireland, a youth of twenty-six, and he was under thirty when he erected the humble and inornate building that was designed to become historic. It was a house with such unprecedented innovations as a separate kitchen for each family, a separate bathtub and an individual water supply. What that bathtub meant can be realized in recalling its absence from the pretentious homes of well-to-do merchants of that time.

Kilpatrick lived to see his firm erect 3,000 buildings, a large proportion of them apartment-houses. He saw the Navarero flats built, a remarkable real-estate venture for their time, and he lived to inspect the great and palatial Ansonia, all but finished. He may well have doubted as he died if there could be any further progress in apartment-house luxury and elegance.

How great the impress of Kilpatrick's idea has been is indicated by the fact that of the 722,070 homes in Greater New York 522,222 are occupied by more than three families. In Manhattan Borough there are now twenty persons to a dwelling, where in 1880 there were only sixteen. A penny from each family would erect a handsome monument for him. On it might be inscribed:

Rest lightly on him, Earth, though he
Laid many a heavy load on thee.

It is an epitaph the sentiment of which every housewife could indorse. For in creating a new kind of home Kilpatrick transformed home life. He lifted from the housekeepers' shoulders some of the most exacting cares of housekeeping and banished most of its drudgery. He dealt a hard blow to the home-making spirit, but provided by way of compensation an ample leisure for matinees and afternoon teas. Whether the change was for the better it is not the province of this article to discuss.

AN OPERA SEAT.

A good thing for a good price is not dear, and an opera seat in the orchestra at \$5 may be said to return the possessor's money's worth in things seen and heard. It represents, it is true, a visit to "Du Barry" and "Iris," and perhaps a glimpse on one's feet of "A Chinese Honeymoon." But for this piecemeal expenditure there are subsequent vain regrets, where the memory of the night at the opera may be cherished as a possession forever. Will it be more profitable in after years to remember the red-haired milliner's apprentice on her way to the guillotine and the bestial exhibition of furniture-throwing fury or to recall Eames in Verdi's masterpiece and High Society in its best clothes?

Even if you dream all through the music, wholly oblivious of Eames or Jago, is it not worth the price to behold the smart set at close range? To see the world's fastest automobile amateur and the fleetest feminine fox-hunter? To see the host of the monkey dinner party, and the cleverest ringmaster of society cruises, and the face that added a new divorce suit to the Newport docket? Eugene's jewels on fairer breasts, Worth dresses on ample figures, Poole's clothes on legs that left the polo field to climb San Juan hill?

And you may reflect that your five-dollar bill has purchased one stone at least of Calve's castle in the South of France and provided pennies for Schumann-Heink's little ones to buy Nuremberg toys with in some dorf in the Vaterland. It may have left Melba's hand to help a beggar in Melbourne, or represented Nordica's contribution to the plate in a Maine meeting-house. You retain a personal interest in your money thus spent, even after it leaves your possession, and there's recompense in that.

SCHMITTBERGER'S SIEGE.

Capt. Schmittberger must be credited with the adoption of new offensive tactics against houses suspected of being gambling resorts. Instead of the sledge-hammer and the battering-ram he is making use of the quieter methods of the siege. Yesterday, as a beginning, he invested a suspected house in West Forty-fourth street, drew a cordon of patrolmen about it and refused ingress to all comers. The beleaguered proprietor sought to parley with the besieging commander, but without avail.

When the gambling fraternity adopted the mediaeval castle style of fortification it became evident that the axe had become obsolete as an effective implement of war against bronze doors and steel gratings. In the utilization of the siege and the Fabian policy of tying the enemy out there are glimpses of military genius. The house selected by Schmittberger for his initial campaign is only an unfortified outpost, but the lessons in strategy to be learned in the operations against it will be invaluable when the occasion arrives for investing a more strongly fortified castle.

Up to Date.—Theatrical realism is to give us a scene in hell, and as it is the handwork of Sardou it is to be strong. Considering the number of interest-arms supposed to have quarters there the scene is popular.

If the Czar's Hypnotizer Were to Tackle "Teddy."

Artist Powers Shows What Would Happen to Philipp.



Prof. Philipp, the hypnotist, who cast his magic spell upon the Czar of Russia and had that delightful despot under his thumb for a while, would not have such a picnic were he to try to take a hypnotic fall or two out of our Chief Executive. "Teddy" wouldn't do a thing to the professor, would he? Oh, no, not at all. Philipp would make a few passes at the

President, as if he were wigwagging lodge signals, and then it would all be over. That is all the hypnotizing Philipp would do. Teddy would do the rest in his strenuous, slam-bang way, which The Evening World artist so graphically depicts. Whatever of Philipp was left would be glad to get back again to the snow-stepped steppes of Russia.

ONE MAN'S EXPERIENCE.



Singleton—Is it true that married women go through their husbands' pockets?
Wederly—Mine doesn't.
Singleton—It is. When she gets to the bottom of them she stops.

A SURE SIGN.



Cholly—Do Jack and Mabel love each other?
Ethel—I should think so. They're always quarrelling.

THERE ARE OTHERS.



Swiggs—Somehow I have failed to meet with any success in my undertakings.
Briggs—That's easily accounted for. Swiggs—Well, what's the answer?
Briggs—Too many bars in your way.

TOO MUCH FOR HIM.



Larry—I used to play poker with Father, but he was too much for me.
Denny—In what way?
Larry—I couldn't "stand Pat."

Mme. Judice Helps Home Dressmakers.

Mme. Judice, who is connected with one of the leading dress-making establishments of this city, has been secured by The Evening World, and will conduct this department, in which home dressmakers will be given helpful advice. Questions relating to dressmaking will be answered by Mme. Judice.

Dear Mme. Judice: I have this material suitable for a plain waist with short sleeves, and how can it be made so as to have long sleeves, but plain? I have tan cloth for waist, pale blue velvet and a yard of very handsome ecru lace, about three inches wide, having a fine zig-zag top and heavy edge. Would like to wear this waist with black skirts. Kindly suggest some pretty way, also some pretty ways of making fancy stocks. Am 34 bust, not tall but long waisted.

I would suggest matching the dark shade in your brown broadened velvet, in either velvet or bengaline silk, and making full puffs below the elbow on the sleeves, with Yandike fasten collar in the plain bodice front. Flashed the blouse in the back so as to give an undisturbed surface to the broadened pattern in the front. The illustration is a pretty way to utilize your materials for tan waist. The zig-zag lace works in nicely over the box-plaited tan across the bust. The three tiny revers opening over a white chiffon vest, the cuffs and girdle and lacings are all of pale-blue velvet. On Oct. 28 I gave several illustrations of fancy stocks on this page.

FOR A FANCY-DRESS BALL.

Dear Mme. Judice: Kindly design a costume for a fancy-dress ball, something inexpensive, as I cannot spend very much. I am twenty-four and married. Mrs. F. H. R. Why not represent "Night" or "Morning" at your fancy-dress ball? Either



DESIGNED FOR D. E.

Tan cloth, blue velvet and cream lace combination.

crescent on the end to correspond with the costume adds a pretty touch.

PRUSSIAN BLUE CORD.

Dear Mme. Judice: I have six and a half yards of inclosed sample forty-three inches wide, would like yoke of tucked chiffon. Could you suggest some style that could be worn on different occasions—something simple but stylish? I am twenty-six years old, short, very slim and fair. N. G. M., Brooklyn. Your sample of Prussian blue whipcord will make up prettily in a plaited or tucked skirt into a yoke of same material, or stitched flat to the knees and then allowed to flare. This is a very becoming style to slender figures. A simple plaited or tucked blouse fastening behind or under the arm, with a

white chiffon yoke applied with pale-blue grapes in clusters and vine effects, is very dainty and is suitable for many different occasions. The sleeves, made in bishop style, are pretty with chiffon drooping puffs at the waist and applied to match the yoke.

CARE OF JEWELRY.

To keep jewelry looking well it must be kept clean and fresh. All articles should be wrapped in separate papers and not thrown higgledy-piggledy in a box, which is the habit of so many women.

Gold jewelry should be washed occasionally in a soap suds lather with a drop or two of sal volatile and dried with a chamois.

Silver ornaments should be treated the same way, but if very dirty rub with a paste made of powdered whiting and ammonia.

Artificial diamonds should never be moistened. Clean with whiting powder and a clean soft brush.

Genuine diamonds, on the other hand, are much improved by a bath in ammonia.

Turquoises should not be washed, and they should be exposed to the air as much as possible to keep their beautiful color.

Pearls should be treated with care. Any external stains may be removed by rubbing gently with ground rice and salt or pumice stone, but it is impossible to remove marks that reach into the substance of the pearl. They should never be dampened. Imitation pearls should have same treatment.

FOR A THANKSGIVING BALL.

Dear Mme. Judice: Would a fine batiste linen color be proper to wear at a ball on Thanksgiving eve?

AGNES B.

Your linen batiste will be quite proper for a ball gown, and it can be made very dressy by adding neck and waist ribbon of some dainty color, with a large bunch of ribbon roses at the corsage and one in the hair to correspond.

A Few Remarks.

Mostly on Topics of the Day.

To-morrow's the day!

The turkey is about to learn that the verb "to gobble" has a passive as well as an active form.

While 1,041,687 persons still draw money for war injuries, who can doubt the Pension's Mightier than the Sword?

If Morgan's going to live abroad, As London papers urged, 'Twill doubtless be because he has Left nothing here unmerged.

"Your youngest child is a boy, isn't he?" "No. He used to be; but now he's 'one of the boys.'"

If it becomes a case of abdication for the Czar it will be a case of "Huz-zah!" for the Nihilists.

"Willie, you promised me you'd never play a game of chance, and yet I find you matching pennies with little Fritz Berthoff!" "Well, ma, if you knowed Fritz Berthoff as well as I do you'd see there wasn't no game of chance about it."

There was a young man of Gasconne, Who was always requesting a logne, But his friends said: "Not much!" When he planned for a tuch; And wouldn't shutt out one plugged cognie.

Dr. Lorenz's cure for wry necks will in no way clash with the gold cure for rye necks.

Pity that all the soft coal smoke didn't take advantage of Evacuation Day to leave town!

Alfred the Great had just won the battle of Ashdown, and ordered it commemorated by carving a colossal horse on the lofty side of a neighboring chalk cliff.

"That may be high art," complained his troops, "but what's the matter with each man chalking up a little pony?" Seeing this was a horse on him, the Monarch gracefully stood treat.

If it takes a "Committee of 77" to tar and feather a man, "Up-State," how many "Fiftens" will it take to reform Manhattan?

"The great majority of the public doesn't know its own strength. If it did, it would place one of its own men in power by combining."

"Well, what makes you think it doesn't?" "Because there's never yet been a President named Smith."

Letters, Queries, Answers

Many Questions on All Sorts of Subjects Answered for Evening World Readers by Experts.

Chilly Waiting Rooms.

What the public would like to know is this: Why have fires not been started in the waiting rooms of all the "L" stations? It cannot be that the company expects the ticket men on the stations to buy coal for the waiting rooms, to enable them to keep warm while serving the poor corporation. I hope the road will take this to heart.

The First Steamboat.

Who devised the first steamboat? My friend said Fulton. I claim Symington. Which is right? G. RASCH. The first practically successful steamboat was constructed by Symington in 1802 and used on the Forth and Clyde Canal. Fulton perfected the steamboat a few years later and brought it into general use here before it was put to general use in England.

Alfred Ayres's Birthplace.

Can you give me (1) the exact date and place of birth of Thomas Embley Osmon, better known under his pen name of Alfred Ayres? Who were his parents? Dr. T. W. G. He was born at Montrose, Summit County, Ohio, Feb. 26, 1834. His parents were George and Mildred Osmon.

A Line of Beauty.

Every place has a certain number of pretty girls, and people living in these places can see only the pretty girls there. But take a walk through Fourteenth or Twenty-third street on a Saturday afternoon and if you don't see pretty girls enough to dazzle your eyes I'll stand treat. F. W. W.

The Relationship Practically.

Suppose a man's wife died and her father was still living. I think that her father would cease to be the father-in-law to the man whose wife died. My opponent says he would still be the father-in-law. What is your opinion? WESTCHESTER READER.

In such a case the father-in-law's relationship toward the man technically ceases with the death of the latter's wife. Sentimental reasons, however, may lead to the relationship's nominal continuance.

Some National Guard Benefits.

In answer to "Young American," who asks what benefits a man gets from being in the National Guards. He derives the pleasure of serving his country. His company has receptions every month, and you could not have a better time anywhere. He learns to be a marksman and sharpshooter, which every "Young American" ought to know. The reviews and drills which his regiment has are very interesting.

A Pathetic Plea for the Dog.

AM fast going blind. I write through a mist of tears and feelings at the thought of being deprived of the company of my little, inoffensive dog. He disturbs no one and but for his company (I have no children) the troubles of my life would be almost unendurable. This is one case only. Mrs. Y. A. M.

A "Dancing" Query.

Is it proper for two gentlemen to separate two ladies when the latter are dancing together, or should they ask them to dance while they are seated?

They should not interrupt the two dancers, but should wait until they return to their seats.

Both Words Spelled Correctly.

Kindly tell me the correct way of spelling the words "using" and "unusable."

Jerome Lives at No. 8 Rutgers St.

Where does District-Attorney Jerome live? S. L. and S. S.

Ask Permission to Call.

The young lady I have been keeping company with for over a year has just returned to her home in another city. Now I wish to call on her at her home. Is it proper for me to ask her permission to call or should she invite me first?

George Lawrence Wrote "Guy Livingstone."

Who wrote the once popular book, "Guy Livingstone"? No author's name appears in my copy of it. F. ROBINSON, JR.

Horse-Power.

What is the exact meaning of the term "horse-power," or is it only used as a vague term meaning great strength? BORN NEW YORKER.

The Average Is 165 Pounds.

What is the average weight of men six feet tall, and twenty-two years old? ATHLETE.

Correct Costume for Wedding.

Can a bridegroom wear a frock coat and light trousers at a wedding, or what costume is proper? E. H. If the wedding occurs before 6 P. M. a frock suit is correct; after 6 P. M. evening dress is required.

The Treatment of Dogs.

As a friend of the dog I believe if dogs are treated right they will prove their friendship to man. If dogs cry they are only asking for what they need, just the same as a baby cries before it can talk. Give them something to eat or a drink when they need it and with a little kind treatment you will

have a good, true friend in the dog. Treat a person meanly and he will not forget it; neither will the dog.

Would Abolish Jury Law.

Why don't some of our Assemblymen in Albany present a bill to abolish this wretched jury law which makes a citizen serve on a jury without compensation? I happened not to be served with a jury notice some time ago, and having a business and nobody to attend to same but myself I asked to be excused. "I cannot do it," answered the Judge. By delays, &c., I stayed there a week, and the jurymen on that case earned \$1 for a whole week's work and the jurymen not on the case lost a whole week's time. No. 302 East Twelfth street.

Strike Was in 1895.

In what year was the great Brooklyn City railroad strike? F. L. Holds It for All Distances from 30 Miles to 100 Miles.

Roosevelt Was Never Mayor.

Was President Roosevelt ever Mayor of this city? Was he ever nominated for Mayor? J. M. He was nominated, but not elected.

It Is Spelt "Neighbor."

Which spelling is correct in this country: "Neighbor" or "neighbour"? T. T.

Nature's Distribution.

To the correspondents who insist upon disputing where Nature has deposited all her pretty women, permit me to say that they all show lack of common sense. Pretty women are distributed throughout the world. No one city can alone lay claim to them. If the question was, "Where tarries the modern woman, the girl with all the up-to-date requirements of a socially and an education?" why, that would be something to appeal to discussion. The truly, would I answer: "New York holds the palm! A New York girl!"

Abraham Lincoln Said It.

Where did the saying, "You can fool all of the people some of the time," originate?

A Question of Precedence.

To the Editor of The Evening World: A gentleman are going up or down stairs. Should the lady or gentleman precede? In ascending the stairs the man should lead, in descending he should follow.

The Gas Man and the Landlord.

To the Editor of The Evening World: IT SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE to get fair play. The gas companies are in a combine with landlords of flat-houses who advertise steam heat and hot water supply, which the landlords do not always sufficiently furnish, thereby compelling us aforesaid poor fools to pay for gas to enable us to get hot water and heat. I speak for the large population of middle-class people that are not starving to death, but which nevertheless can be bled to death by extortion.

A Warning Against Oiled Bricks.

To the Editor of The Evening World: Let me speak of the use of oiled bricks. While they might partly reduce the cold and be a substitute for coal, I am afraid the risk is too much. There can be no doubt that through their use lives would be lost and a great deal of property destroyed. What a grand excuse for people that are over and above insured to fall back on!

Russia's Creed.

To the Editor of The Evening World: What is the religion of Russia, Greek Catholic or Roman Catholic? JOHN FREEM.

Four States Have No Death Penalty.

To the Editor of The Evening World: What is the number of States in which capital punishment has been abolished? ANONY. In four States the death penalty is forbidden by law. They are Rhode Island, Wisconsin, Michigan and Maine.

A Soldier Testifies.

To the Editor of The Evening World: I am a soldier stationed at Fort Hamilton. There are a lot of people who think that all a regular soldier has got to do is to get drunk and raise all kinds of disturbances. Perhaps they are right in regard to a certain small percentage of the enlisted men; but in regard to the whole command their opinion is very erroneous and should be modified to meet the existing conditions of the soldiers who are in the right and are hurt by their impartial prejudice to one and all.

Thanksgiving in 1887.

To the Editor of The Evening World: What date did Thanksgiving fall on in the year of 1887? MAY MOETZ.

Yes, Both Were Members of Lyscum Stock Company.

To the Editor of The Evening World: Did Mary Manning and James K. Hackett ever play in the same company and if so, where? INQUIRER.

The Light Obstructor.

To the Editor of The Evening World: There are thousands of people who ride on "L" trains daily who may be termed "light obstructors." Forced to stand, they open wide their newspapers, never pausing to think how many others they are shutting off the light from. It would be every bit as easy for them to fold their papers into smaller space; and at the same time they don't stand or hold their papers in such a way as to cast a dark shadow on those sitting. For sitters have as much right to read as have standers. Also let us have the car lights lit those dark mornings. WEST SIDE SUFFERER.